

Message Text

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S E C R E T DAKAR 6227

NODIS CHEROKEE

FROM REINHARDT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: REINHARDT MEETING WITH SENGHOR

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT SENGHOR EXPRESSED ELATION AND COMPLETE SUPPORT FOR OUTCOME OF SECRETARY'S NEGOTIATIONS. SEES THE EXCELLENT RESULTS AS REFLECTION OF DEGAULLE TYPE DETERMINATION AS CONTRASTED WITH BRITISH INEFFECTUAL APPROACH. DID NOT RAISE SINGLE QUESTION OR OBJECTION CONCERNING TERMS I OUTLINED ABOUT RHODESIAN OR NAMIBIAN PROPOSALS. WILL MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT SEPTEMBER 28 FOLLOWING MEETING OF HIS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. BELIEVES VERY RAPID MOVEMENT NECESSARY LEST SOVIETS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ANY DELAYS AND DISAGREEMENTS. POINTS OUT THAT AFRICA NOW AT A VERY CRITICAL STAGE BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN "TRAUMATIZED BY ANGOLA." THINKS RESULTS OF SECRETARY'S INITIATIVES WILL HAVE DECIDED EFFECT ON FUTURE OF FRENCH POLICIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, ESPECIALLY INCONVINCING FRANCE THAT HER NUCLEAR AND MILITARY SUPPLY ROLE IN SOUTH AFRICA MUST BE REVISED. HOPES TO TALK WITH MOBUTU, AMONG OTHERS, BETWEEN OCTOBER 2-9.

1. PRESIDENT SENGHOR RECEIVED ME AT 1900 TODAY, HAVING RETURNED FROM A WEEK-END VACATION AT HIS COUNTRY RESIDENCE. AFTER EXCHANGE OF PLEASANTRIES, I OUTLINED RHODESIAN AND NAMIBIAN PROPOSALS, FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS AND SECRETARY'S MOST RECENT LETTER TO KHAMA.

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2. SENGHOR BEGAN HIS RESPONSE BY EXPRESSING HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE BRIEFING AND HIS REALIZATION THAT SECRETARY COULD NOT VISIT MORE CAPITALS. STATED THAT EVEN BEFORE SMITH SPOKE, HE ENDORSED SECRETARY'S EFFORTS DURING RECENT VISIT TO TUNISIA AND MOROCCO, THOUGH AT THAT TIME HE WAS SKEPTICAL ABOUT WHAT SMITH MIGHT SAY. HE SHOWED LITTLE INTEREST IN THE SPECIFIC TERMS BUT PROMISED CONTINUING PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SUPPORT.

3. THE PRESIDENT THEN TURNED TO A GENERAL REVIEW OF AFRICA'S PROBLEMS, WHICH HE BELIEVES HAVE BEEN INCREASED CONSIDERABLY BY EVENTS IN ANGOLA.

4. FIRST, HE COMMENDED ON FRENCH POLICY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, WITH WHICH HE HAS DISAGREED VERY MUCH IN RECENT MONTHS. FOLLOWING THE LAST OAU SUMMIT, HE WAS VISITED BY NJOMO OF SWAPO AND TAMBO OF ANC, WHO STRESSED THEIR CONCERN ABOUT "THE POLITICAL BUT NOT THE TECHNOLOGICAL" - ASPECTS OF FRENCH NUCLEAR POLICY IN SOUTH AFRICA. SENGHOR IMMEDIATELY WROTE TO Giscard REGISTERING A SIMILAR CONCERN. Giscard NEVER ANSWERED THE LETTER, A TYPICAL FRENCH REACTION, HE SAID, "WHEN THEY ARE EMBARRASSED." LATER HE TALKED WITH Giscard, WHO ADMITTED THEN THAT SENGHOR WAS CORRECT BUT ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE SECRETARY HAD SPOKEN TO HIM ALONG SIMILAR LINES. SENGHOR CLAIMED FOR HIMSELF ONLY MINOR CREDIT IN AFFECTING THIS FRENCH POLICY, THE MAJOR INFLUENCE BEING THAT OF THE SECRETARY, FOR WHICH HE REMAINS GRATEFUL.

5. RECENT SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA, ESPECIALLY IN ANGOLA, ARE A MAJOR PROBLEM. SENGHOR SAID THAT HE NOW FINDS HIMSELF SURROUNDED BY NEIGHBORS -- GUINEA, MALI AND GUINEA BISSAU -- WHO ON FAR SMALLER OVER-ALL BUDGETS BUT WITH COMMUNIST SUPPORT ARE BETTER ARMED THAN SENEGAL. THE PRESIDENT PLANS TO CALL AMBASSADOR AGGREY IN NEXT WEEK TO REITERATE REQUEST FOR AMERICAN ASSISTANCE. SENGHOR FEELS OUTCLASSED BY HIS NEIGHBORS' AVIATION, ARTILLERY, AND TANKS. AMERICAN ASSISTANCE, AS HE ENVISIONS IT, WOULD BE SUPPLEMENTARY TO WHAT HE THINKS HE WILL RECEIVE FROM THE FRENCH.

6. THE FRENCH, WHO CLEARLY REMAIN DOMINANT IN HIS THINKING,
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HAVE BEEN PRESSING HIM RECENTLY TO RECOGNIZE ANGOLA. SENEGAL, HE SAID, WILL PROBABLY VOTE FOR THE ADMISSION OF ANGOLA INTO THE UN BUT WILL NEVER GRANT DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION AS LONG AS CUBA HAD ITS IMPORTANT MILITARY PRESENCE IN ANGOLA.

7. PROCLAIMING THAT HE HAD BEEN A SOCIALIST SINCE HIS STUDENT DAYS, HE STILL DRAWS A SHARP LINE BETWEEN HIS BRAND OF SOCIALISM AND MARXIST-LENINISM. HENCE, THE SOVIET/

CUBAN PRESENCE IN AFRICA WORRIES HIM AND LIKE-MINDED LEADERS VERY MUCH. HE WILL ATTEND THE UPCOMING MEETING OF THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONALE AND WILL ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE SUCH MEN AS PALME, KREISKY, BRANDT, AND MITTERAND THAT SOVIET PENETRATION OF AFRICA ILL SERVES THE WEST.

8. HE HAS ALWAYS BELIEVED IN "CONSULTATION RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION," THUS HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR THE SECRETARY'S MOST RECENT VISIT. HE WHOLEHEARTEDLY ENDORSES THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS, ADDING SOMEWHAT CRYPTICALLY: "I WILL CITE KAUNDA AND NYERERE, BUT I WILL NOT CITE MACHEL AND NETO."

9. SENGHOR WILL WRITE A LETTER OF CONGRATULATION AND ENDORSEMENT TO THE SECRETARY THIS WEEK. AND THE SECRETARY, HE SAID, "CAN DEPEND ON ME" TO USE ANY PERSONAL INFLUENCE HE HAS AND THE GOOD OFFICES OF SENEGAL, BOTH PRIVATELY AND PUBLICLY, TO SEEK A RAPID IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSALS ON RHODESIA AND, WHEN THEY BECOME MORE PUBLICLY CLEAR, ON NAMIBIA.

10. PRESIDENT MOBUTU WILL PROBABLY VISIT SENEGAL ON THE OCCASION OF SENGHOR'S SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS OCTOBER 2-9. SENGHOR WILL USE THIS OCCASION WITH MOBUTU TO PRESS HARD FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION ON THE RHODESIAN PROPOSALS AND GENERALLY TO HARMONIZE SENECALESE AND ZAIRIAN POLICY ON SOUTHERN AFRICA FOLLOWING UPON THE SECRETARY'S IDEAS AND INITIATIVES. EVEN EARLIER, ON SEPTEMBER 28, HE WILL MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT OF ENDORSEMENT FOLLOWING THE MEETING OF HIS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

AGGREY

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